

Message Text

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R 201721Z FEB 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:PFOR, AFSI, JA

SUBJECT:DIPLOMATIC STATUS OF OFFICIAL STUDENTS

REF: TOKYO 1409

1. EMBASSY MAY INFORM FONOFF THAT DEPARTMENT DESIRES TO BE
AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE TO GOJ'S REQUESTS OUTLINED
IN REFTEL. IN LIGHT OF THE MUTUAL BENEFITS GAINED BY BOTH
US AND JAPAN FROM THE STUDY OF "DIPLOMAT-STUDENTS" OF EACH
IN THE OTHER'S COUNTRY AND IN THE SPIRIT OF GENERAL
COOPERATION WHICH MARKS US JAPAN RELATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT
IS PREPARED TO AFFORD DIPLOMATIC STATUS TO JAPANESE
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FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS STUDYING IN THE US ON A RECIPROCAL
BASIS. THIS REPRESENTS AN EXCEPTIONAL AND UNPRECEDENTED
ARRANGEMENT, AND DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY STUDYING HOW THIS

CAN BE EFFECTED IN REGARDS TO SPECIFIC PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.

2. DEPARTMENT REQUIRES FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM EMBASSY AND FONOFF: 1) RUN DOWN OF THOSE PRIVILEGES/IMMUNITIES YOKOHAMA FSI STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENJOY UNDER DIPLOMATIC STATUS AND HOW THESE FACILITATE OPERATION OF LANGUAGE SCHOOL. WHAT PRIVILEGES/IMMUNITIES, IF ANY, DO EMBASSY OFFICERS ENJOY THAT YOKOHAMA STUDENTS DO NOT? ARE THESE

PRIVILEGES/IMMUNITIES AFFECTED IN ANY WAY BY STUDENTS' RESIDENCE IN MUNICIPALITY SEPARATE FROM NATIONAL CAPITAL? 2) ARE ACCREDITED OFFICERS AT BOTH EMBASSY AND YOKOHAMA SCHOOL ABLE TO ESCAPE INDIRECT TAXATION SUCH AS SALES TAX? 3) IF DIPLOMATIC STATUS IS AFFORDED BOTH US AND JAPANESE DIPLOMAT STUDENTS, WE ASSUME THEY WOULD BE LISTED ON THE RESPECTIVE DIPLOMATIC LISTS, PROBABLY AS "ATTACHES". WOULD THIS ADDITION TO TOKYO LIST CAUSE ANY PROBLEM FOR EMBASSY? WOULD SIZEABLE ADDITION TO WASHINGTON LIST OF JAPANESE ATTACHES CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR FONOFF? 4) DIPLOMATIC LICENSE TAGS ARE ISSUED ONLY IN WASHINGTON DC AND NEW YORK CITY. WE ARE STUDYING POSSIBILITY OF ISSUANCE OF WASHINGTON TAGS TO JAPANESE DIPLOMATS RESIDING AND STUDYING IN STATES OTHER THAN NEW YORK. SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT MIGHT WELL MAKE JAPANESE OFFICERS CONSPICUOUS ON CAMPUS. IS THIS ACCEPTABLE TO FONOFF? 5) WE WOULD CONSIDER THAT ANY SUCH RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC STATUS WOULD BE LIMITED TO OFFICERS ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FOREIGN SERVICES. IS THIS THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE FONOFF? 6) FSIO DWAYNE KING IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE AND BEGIN STUDIES AT YOKOHAMA IN MARCH. IF FINAL AGREEMENT ON RECIPROCAL DIPLOMATIC STATUS IS NOT REACHED BY THEN WE ASSUME KING WOULD NEVERTHELESS RECEIVE THOSE PRIVILEGES/IMMUNITIES CURRENTLY AFFORDED YOKOHAMA STUDENTS. PLEASE CONFIRM WITH FONOFF.

3. FYI: ONCE THE DETAILS OF THIS RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENT ARE HAMMERED OUT, WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO FORMALIZE THIS AGREEMENT THROUGH AN EXCHANGE, IF NOT OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES, OF LETTERS OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

AMBASSADOR CATTO AND YASUKAWA AND BETWEEN AMBASSADOR AND CHIEF OF PROTOCOL IN TOKYO. WE BELIEVE THAT AN OFFICIAL EXCHANGE AT THAT LEVEL, AS OPPOSED TO THE "INFORMAL UNDERSTANDINGS" OF PAST YEARS, WILL PREVENT FURTHER PROBLEMS FROM ARISING IN THE FUTURE. FURTHERMORE, SUCH LETTERS COULD BE DRAFTED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO 1) GAIN OFFICIAL FONOFF "RECOGNITION" OF THE YOKOHAMA SCHOOL AS

AN ANNEX OF THE EMBASSY AND THEREFORE CONSTITUTING A
"DIPLOMATIC ESTABLISHMENT" AND 2) AFFORD THE DEPARTMENT THE
FUTURE OPTION OF SENDING AN OFFICER TO A JAPANESE
UNIVERSITY WITH DIPLOMATIC STATUS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE
EMBASSY COMMENTS. KISSINGER

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